

CORYNEPHORUS CANESCENS ON WESTERN LONG ISLAND.—On the sandy waste lands bordering Jamaica Bay, especially near Cross Bay Boulevard, Queens, this silvery-tufted annual grass has become exceedingly abundant. The seventh edition of Gray's Manual does not include it, but in Hitchcock's Manual of Grasses (1935) *Corynephorus* is treated as a ballast plant adventive from Europe at Philadelphia, Camden, Long Island, and Martha's Vineyard.—H. K. SVENSON, BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN.

SOME WOODY PLANTS OF RHODE ISLAND

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DURING the summers of 1937 and 1938 I made several short excursions into Rhode Island for the purpose of adding to the very incomplete set of the woody plants of the state in the herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum. The flora of this small and accessible state has been so thoroughly explored that new discoveries could scarcely be expected. However, several plants were found that are not mentioned in the rather complete list of the state flora published by J. L. Bennett half a century ago,* and some of them do not seem to have been reported elsewhere. Most of the plants noted here are of species and varieties that have been recognized as distinct in recent years, and this is the case also with the three hybrid oaks.

About 200 species and varieties of woody plants have been recorded from Rhode Island in previous publications that I have seen. A total of 151 species and varieties were collected on my various trips, including six introduced plants. All parts of the state were visited, but little collecting was done in Newport County on account of continuous rain at the time I was there.

One of the surprising features of the state flora, in contrast with that of surrounding regions, is the scant representation of the genus *Crataegus*. Thorns may be more abundant in some sections that were not visited, especially in the southeastern part; but only three species are represented in my collections, and all of these appear to be rather rare. The species found are *Crataegus macrosperma* Ashe, *C. intricata* Lange, and *C. pruinosa* (Wendl.) K. Koch. Other species represented in the herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum by previous collections are

* Plants of Rhode Island, J. L. Bennett, Proc. Providence Franklin Soc. 1888.

Crataegus dilatata Sarg., *C. chrysoarpa* Ashe var. *phoenica* Palmer, *C. Holmesiana* Ashe, and *C. macracantha* Lodd., all of which are from the vicinity of Tiverton. *Crataegus crus-galli* L. and *C. punctata* Jacq. have also been reported from Rhode Island, and both are probably found in the state, although I have seen no specimens.

Ten species of *Rubus* were collected, of which the following are of interest as not having been mentioned in the Bennett list: *Rubus setosus* Bigel. (Slatersville), *R. multispinus* Blanchard (Cumberland Hill, North Scituate), *R. arenicolus* Blanchard (Wallum Pond), and *R. laciniatus* Willd. (Wallum Pond). The last, an introduced species, was abundant locally in wet rocky woods a little way back from the east shore of the pond.

Salix Bebbiana Sarg. was found near Smithfield and North Scituate, and *S. discolor* Muhl. var. *eriocephala* (Michx.) Anders. at Exeter. *Carya ovalis* (Wang.) Sarg., collected at Slatersville, and *C. ovalis* var. *obovalis* Sarg., near Tiverton, were both probably included under *Carya microcarpa* Nutt. of earlier lists.

The chestnut (*Castanea dentata* (Marsh.) Borkh.), once a common and stately tree in the woods of Rhode Island and throughout New England, is now represented only by sprouts from old stumps making a persistent fight against the blight. But it is interesting to note that here as in some other localities the species seems to be far from extermination, and there may be a possibility that some strain will develop immunity and outlive the blight. On a rocky slope above Sneece Pond, near Cumberland Hill, second growth plants were found that were 20 or 25 feet in height and bearing numerous fruiting burs.

Eight species and three hybrid oaks were collected on my various trips. The post oak and the pin oak and the hybrid, \times *Quercus runcinata* Engelm., reported on the Bennett list, were not seen, but three additional hybrids were found. \times *Quercus Rehderi* Trelease was collected near Slatersville under my number 43296, July 17, 1937. This is the hybrid between *Quercus ilicifolia* and *Q. velutina*, both of which were abundant in the vicinity, and several of the hybrids were seen. Near the same place a single specimen of \times *Quercus Robbinsii* Trelease (*Q. coccinea* \times *Q. ilicifolia*) was found. This was collected under number 43352, July 17, 1937. \times *Quercus Saulei* Schneider (*Q. alba* \times *Q. montana*) was found near Durfee Hill, south of Chepachet. The collection number is 44641, Aug. 20, 1938. The chestnut oak (*Quercus montana*) is a rather uncommon and restricted species, but it was

found growing abundantly on the north side of Durfee Hill—said to be the highest point in Rhode Island—in 1937. The locality was not thoroughly explored at that time on account of rain, but as the white oak was also growing there, and as the species seem to hybridize rather frequently, a special effort was made the following year to find the hybrid. Going south from Chepachet on U. S. highway 102, at a point about half a mile north of where the local road turns off for Durfee Hill, *Quercus montana* was quite abundant on both sides. On the east side of the highway there is a gradual wooded slope with loose boulders and outcrops of bedded schistose rock, and on one of the larger of these outcrops in a group of mostly shrubby or stunted chestnut and white oaks, a specimen was found that was an evident hybrid between the two species. The tree, about 20 or 25 feet in height, was apparently a rather old specimen, but it was not fruiting at the time of collection, although most of the chestnut oaks bore acorns.

Specimens of the three hybrid oaks are deposited in the herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum and in the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club.

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